

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PARIS 00359 071100Z

22/43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-10 SAM-01 SAB-01 AID-05 /096 W

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P R 061929Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6589

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

UNCLAS PARIS 0359

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y P A R A 1 L I N E 19

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IS, XF, PLO

SUBJECT: RABIN INTERVIEW: ISRAELI-PLO RELATIONS

1. NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR OF JAN. 5 CARRIES INTERVIEW GIVEN BY  
PRIME MINISTER RABIN TO JOSETTE ALIA. IN REPLY TO QUESTION OF  
WHETHER THE US, WERE THE PLO TO  
RECOGNIZE ISRAEL, WOULD BE FREE TO PRESSURE ISRAEL TO  
NEGOTIATE WITH THE PLO, RABIN SAID THE FOLLOWING  
(EMBASSY TRANSLATION):

"THAT IS A VERY, VERY HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION BECAUSE  
THE PRESENT EVOLUTION OF THE PLO DOES NOT SEEM TO BE  
GOING IN THAT DIRECTION... IF, HOWEVER, SUCH A CHANGE WERE TO  
TAKE PLACE WITHIN THE PLO, WE CLEARLY WOULD HAVE PROBLEMS WITH  
THE US. BUT AT THAT MOMENT, ISRAEL WOULD HAVE THE DUTY TO EXAMINE  
VERY CAREFULLY THIS 'CHANGE'

WITHIN THE PLO. WE WOULD ASK EXACTLY WHAT IT SIGNIFIED. WOULD  
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IT MEAN MERELY WORDS WITHOUT CONSEQUENCES OR WORDS FOLLOWED

BY ACTS?"

ASKED WHAT ACTS, ROBIN REPLIED: "FOR EXAMPLE, ABANDONING THE PALESTINIAN CHARTER IMPLYING THE DESTRUCTION OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL".

PRESSED AS TO WHETHER ISRAEL WOULD REALLY REEXAMINE ITS POLICY, RABIN STATED: "ALL THAT IS HYPOTHETICAL AND NOT AT ALL REALISTIC. BUT, IN THE UNEXPECTED CASE OF A CHANGE ON THE PART OF THE PLO, WE WOULD TRY TO VERIFY IT. WE WOULD ASK IN A PRECISE MANNER WHETHER OR NOT THE PLO WAS ABANDONING THE PALESTINIAN CHARTER, WHICH SEEMS LOGICAL FOR IT CANNOT AT THE SAME TIME RECOGNIZE US AND MAINTAIN THE CHARTER WHICH IS BASED ENTIRELY ON OUR DISAPPEARANCE AS A STATE. THEN, WE WOULD DRAW CONCLUSIONS FROM THE ANSWERS WE HAD BEEN GIVEN. THEN, AT THE RIGHT MOMENT, WE WOULD DECIDE."

2. COPIES INTERVIEW POUCHED TO DEPT., NEA AND INR, AND TEL AVIV.  
RUSH

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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